

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2 and 10 are canceled, claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 13 14 and 16-19 are amended and claims 22-24 are added.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 9, 11 and 13-19 contain patentable subject matter. Claims 9, 11, 13, 14 and 16-19 have been placed in independent form and thus are in condition for allowance.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the May 19 personal interview. The substance of the discussions held are incorporated into the amendments and following remarks and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

I. All the Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8, 10, 12, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0018278 to Sato et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claim 1 and new claims 23 and 24, Sato does not disclose a light shielding layer provided between the data lines and the pixel electrodes, the shielding layer being formed along the data lines and having a width wider than the width of the data lines, the light-shielding layer being formed to cover the entire data lines in plan view, as recited in amended independent claim 1. Instead, Sato discloses a capacity line 300' that only partially covers the data line 6a. See e.g., Fig. 17 of Sato.

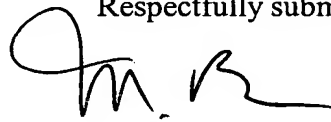
With respect to claims 20 and 21, Sato does not disclose dielectric films which constitute the storage capacitors being made of a plurality of layers including different materials. Instead, Sato discloses in paragraph 98, a dielectric layer 75 that is formed of a relatively thin HTO layer or LTO layer having a thickness falling within a range from 5 to 200 nm, such as of a silicon oxide layer, a silicon nitride layer, a nitride oxide layer or a multi-layer of these layers. Thus, Sato discloses forming multiple layers of one material.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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